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Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

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FIRST ANNUAL SESSION.

[OCTOBER, 1861.]

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# Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

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## INAUGURAL EXERCISES.

FROM THE AMERICAN MEDICAL TIMES.

THE inauguration of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College took place on the 18th instant, under circumstances peculiarly gratifying and encouraging to the Trustees and Faculty to whom its early management has been entrusted. From the first inception of the design for the establishment of this College to its complete fulfillment, the founders of the institution just inaugurated have been unrelaxing in their efforts to accomplish their praiseworthy object. For several years Bellevue Hospital has been the resort of large classes of medical students for the purpose of attending its courses of clinical instruction. It very naturally occurred to the Medical Board that, as bedside instruction is the essential part of a medical education, with the addition of a didactic course to that already given, with the legal power to grant diplomas, this Hospital would afford facilities for acquiring a complete and thorough medical education unsurpassed in this country. The subject was submitted to the attention of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections immediately after their accession to office in April, 1860, and their first step was to solicit the consideration of the Hospital Medical Board. The report made to the Commissioners, in response to their communication, decided the action of that body, and an act of incorporation was obtained conferring on the Bellevue Hospital Medical College all the powers and privileges enjoyed by other chartered medical schools in this State. The College was accordingly organized in April, 1861, the department of instruction instituted, a corps of thirteen professors appointed, and measures taken for the erection of a suitable college building within the hospital grounds. The work of erecting the college building was not commenced till June last, but under the constant supervision of the Faculty the work was pushed rapidly forward and completed in a very brief space of time. It was within

this new building that the exercises attendant on the formal inauguration of the College were performed. The lecture-room is well designed, the form being that of a semicircle, with cushioned seats, ample room for four hundred students, and good light. The dissecting-room is one of the most convenient we have ever seen, having the light brought near the table, an abundant supply of water, etc. The pathological museum, already large, has received most valuable additions from the private collections of Profs. J. R. Wood and Mott. The departments of chemistry and materia medica have large and well-appointed collections for illustration.

The members of the Board of Trustees were anxious to mark the occasion of the inauguration of the College by something more than the usual exercises and formalities, and they issued a large number of invitations for an excursion to Randall's Island, and to the new Hospital and other charities on Blackwell's Island. In accordance, therefore, with the invitations, a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled, at 12 o'clock, on the grounds of the Bellevue Hospital, foot of Twenty-sixth street, East River. The extensive wards of the Hospital were the first objects of attention,—several gentlemen of the Faculty attending the visitors and pointing out and explaining to them subjects of particular interest. A little after 12 o'clock the steamer General Arthur, crowded to her utmost carrying capacity, cleared from the wharf and proceeded to Blackwell's Island, where the excursionists disembarked, the steamer returning for numbers that had been left behind. Here the visitors repaired first to the Island Hospital, which underwent but a very cursory inspection, the time allotted for that purpose being very limited. General approbation was, however, expressed at the cleanliness, quiet, and order which prevailed throughout the establishment. The Almshouse, Penitentiary, and other buildings were hurriedly gone through, all hastening to take their places on the boat which was to convey them to Randall's Island. The boys of the island, to the number of some five hundred, with flags and a band of music, were drawn up in military order, to receive and welcome the visitors, which they did with three hearty cheers and a tiger, given with a vigor and a strength of lungs which spoke well for the physical condition of these young objects of public charity. The military parade of these urchins was the most interesting feature of the excursion. They went through their drill and evolutions with a precision and a confidence which elicited loud and frequent applause from the crowd of

strangers by whom they were surrounded. Two of their number—lads named respectively James Daley, aged eleven years, and Maximilian Dightmaker, of about the same age—in succession, stepped in front of the ranks and spoke the welcome of the “Randall Light Infantry,” in short, patriotic speeches, which were loudly cheered. The clean and comfortable homes of the female children were the special objects of interest and attraction to the lady visitors, of whom there was a large number. The Insane Asylum, for youths of both sexes, was also visited. But little time was allowed for a ramble among the beautifully kept walks of the island. The Randall Light Infantry moved to the front, and, with banners flying and drums beating, led the way to the wharf. The whole party was quickly on board, and, with cheers from the infantry, the steamer took its departure for the city.

### THE EXERCISES IN THE COLLEGE.

Every seat in the lecture-room was filled, and a little after four o'clock the gentlemen to whom was assigned the more important part of the inauguration took their places on the platform. Professor Taylor, the President of the College, occupied the chair.

### INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS BY PROF. B. W. MACREADY.

According to time-honored custom, each session of every medical college in Great Britain and America must be opened by a formal address by one of its professors, and what is a matter of course on ordinary occasions becomes doubly imperative when, as in our case, a new institution is added to those already sufficiently numerous for the work they have to do, or for the support that is extended to them. It is usual, on such an occasion as this last, to say something in praise of the new fledgling, to point out the stoutness of his thighs and the vigor of his pinions, to extol the shrillness of his voice, and to augur the strength of his flight. To such a task I am wholly unequal, and the arrangements made by the committee have been such as to save you even from the lecture I was prepared to inflict upon you, and I am here only to say a few plain words of the causes which led to, and called for, the formation of our institution.

Something more than twenty-five years ago I was a student of medicine in this our goodly city of New York, and attended lectures

in the time-honored College of Physicians and Surgeons, then situated in Barclay street. Our teaching was wholly didactic and not too abundantly illustrated. The professor of obstetrics, indeed, had some pelves, normal and deformed, and a wet preparation or two, and annually the machine and the manikin were brought out to show us the use of the forceps. The lectures on anatomy, on surgery, and on chemistry, were appropriately illustrated. My former preceptor, the late able and lamented Dr. John B. Beck, a man whose loss is still felt by the profession, did all that was necessary to teach well and thoroughly his own branch, the materia medica; but our physiology was entirely didactic, and mostly metaphysical; and as to morbid anatomy, I do not recollect to have seen a recent specimen, scarcely an engraving of one, during my whole term of attendance upon lectures! Clinical teaching—I am speaking of medicine—there was none; at least none worthy of the name. On the performance of a capital operation, the theatre of the New York Hospital would be well filled with students and doctors; and occasionally, during the winter, some half dozen students would be galvanized to attend the physician on duty in his visits to the wards; but the attendance evidently soon became equally tedious to the professor and the students, and in a week or two was sure to terminate. Do not let me be understood as speaking with any want of regard of my old teachers. They were men every way estimable and respectable: eminent in their day,—some of them still living to adorn our common profession. I speak of the system and not of individuals.

The necessity for more practical teaching gradually made itself felt by the schools, and the clinics, as they were termed (*lucus a non lucendo*), were introduced at the different colleges. At first, I believe they were purely surgical, but soon the system was extended and clinics were instituted for general diseases, for diseases of women and children, for those of the heart and lungs, for diseases of the skin, in fact for every complaint which did not confine the patient to his bed. These clinics are not without their value. They make the student familiar with the manner of examining a patient, they show him a certain amount of disease, and they are the occasion for various and instructive remarks by the gentlemen who conduct them; but they are obnoxious to serious objections. Many of the patients that attend them are abundantly able to pay for professional services, and they are taken from a class whose treatment falls naturally to the young and struggling physician. All acute and serious disease,

that confines the patient to the house, is necessarily excluded from them, while it is impossible for the students to follow up the various cases, to observe the progress of the complaint, and note the effect of remedies. As an addition to proper clinical teaching at our hospitals and dispensaries, they are entirely unnecessary; as a substitute for it, they are wholly insufficient.

For a number of years previous to 1848, the medical government of Bellevue Hospital was entrusted to a resident physician appointed by the Common Council. As is common, I believe, with every other office in the gift of our city government, that of resident physician soon became the reward of political partizanship. Every change in the dominant party led to a change of the resident physician, and the change was rarely for the better. Under the officer thus appointed, the duties of the Hospital were performed by six or eight young graduates, whose most essential qualification was the payment of a handsome fee to the resident physician. It is not necessary to depict the evils of such a system; the horrors that sometimes occurred would shock and astonish the least sensitive.

In 1848, the Hospital came under the form of medical government, under which, with some slight modifications, it has since continued. From that time to the present, the Medical Board has steadily and persistently attempted to render the immense advantages offered by the institution available for the instruction of students in clinical medicine. "They believed that they would thus elevate the character of the institution; make it an honor to be connected with it; secure the best attainable services for its inmates; and partly repay the public for the cost of its maintenance by attracting students to the city, and by improving the education of the rising generation of medical men." Regular clinical instruction *has* been given throughout the year to large and increasing classes. Students *have* been attracted to the city, medical men not unfrequently have resorted here for practical improvement, and the name of Bellevue Hospital, instead of being a reproach and a disgrace to New York, is connected throughout the length and breadth of our land with the cause of medical education. The effect of the new system upon the main object of every hospital—the relief of the sick poor—has been equally satisfactory. For twenty years previous to the change in its medical government, the average annual mortality of the Hospital was twenty per cent. of the whole number of the patients submitted to treatment. The first year after the change had taken place the

mortality sank to fourteen per cent., and for a number of years back it has been but ten. Of the ten thousand patients who last year were submitted to medical and surgical treatment at Bellevue alone, if numbers speak true, the lives of one thousand were saved by the change in the government of the Hospital.

When the success of the new system was no longer a matter of speculation, as from year to year the classes attending lectures at the Hospital became more numerous and more constant in their attendance, the question naturally came up—Why not add didactic to clinical teaching? Why continue the divorce of two things naturally and intimately allied? In London, the buildings of the medical schools are mostly within the grounds of the hospital; men study medicine at Guy's or St. Thomas's—why not at Bellevue? Throughout the continent of Europe clinical teachers form part of the regular faculty of the universities. Attendance on clinical is as necessary as on didactic instruction for the obtainment of university honors. Attendance on hospital teaching is not left to the option of the young men, often overworked and always inclined to esteem as of inferior importance what their professors omit from their course as unessential; it is a part of the necessary curriculum demanded of all alike who wish to obtain the doctorate. Are we too far behind Europe to inaugurate such a system? Questions like these occurred, but there was no satisfactory answer. The times were not propitious. In the meanwhile, our enterprising neighbors on the other side of the East River—the City of Churches—stole a march upon New York, and engrafting a medical school on one of her hospitals, in the Long Island Hospital Medical College, set an example to the rest of the Union.

When last year the present Board of Commissioners of Charities and Corrections assumed the government of our public institutions and prisons, one of their first steps was to give the medical supervision of the institutions on Blackwell's Island, with the exception of the Lunatic Asylum, and including the new and magnificent Island Hospital, to the Medical Board of Bellevue. The Board now found itself at the head of the noblest and most extensive hospital establishment in America—one second to but very few in any country—containing in its wards cases of every disease mankind is heir to—counting, among its inmates, natives of every quarter of the globe; for I have seen in its wards Lascars and Chinamen, Indian mixed breeds, Spaniards from South America, lying side by side with the natives of every nation in Europe and of every State in the Union.



Then the question of establishing a school in connection with the Hospital again came up. Occurring at the same time to a number, both connected with the Hospital and outside of it, with whom it first took form and shape I know not; but I do know, that when the question did come up, it was met by the Commissioners in the kindest, frankest, and most generous manner. Every facility and assistance, consistent with what they deemed their duty to the public, was at once tendered us; in fine, it is owing to liberal and enlightened, and, we believe, far-seeing views of these gentlemen, that our College owes the possibility of its existence.

Bound together as are the Hospital and College, there is a strange similarity in the time in which they were undertaken. The foundation of the building now occupied as Bellevue Hospital was laid in 1811, while the country was on the eve of the late war with Great Britain. Slowly but steadily its walls went up while an enemy's fleet was blockading our harbor, and an enemy's army devastating our country.

Just fifty years after the foundation of the Hospital, our College, which we hope is to become its complement and crown, was undertaken while we were on the eve of a war far more dreadful than any that could be waged with a foreign enemy. But gloomy as was the outlook, widespread as was the ruin, New York came unscathed out of the last war, and she will live through this, and her works of charity and science go on scarcely checked by the dread commotion around them. Our building is not so ornamental, or spacious, perhaps, as we could wish, or as it would have been under different circumstances, but it contains all that is necessary. We say emphatically to the student, we want here but a lecture-room and museums; your great field of study lies yonder. There is open to you the book of nature; for disease, a consequence of the infraction of his laws, is no less a part of God's providence than health. We are here to teach you the language in which it is written, to aid you by our experience, to help you with our comments; there lies the book itself! Give that your closest study—but remember! Handle its pages tenderly, reverently; they bear the impress of the Creator.

## REMARKS BY DR. ISAAC E. TAYLOR,

PRESIDENT OF THE FACULTY.

The inauguration of a Medical College, in connection with one of the largest Hospitals in the United States, and I may say, with the exception of one, in Europe, is an event of some interest and no ordinary moment. The various queries that have or may be propounded, of the need of such an Institution, it is not my province to entertain. Time will utter her own answer.

In the acceptance of the trust, on the 18th of December, 1860, tendered by the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, of the various Medical Institutes on Blackwell's Island, to the Medical Board of Bellevue Hospital, the committee appointed for that purpose realized the *need* of a Medical College in unison with the Hospital, and it would have been a dereliction of duty to the cause of medical education and medical science not to have suggested and attempted it.

Thanks, therefore, gentlemen, to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, who have, in the renovation of these Hospitals, acceded to the wish of the Medical Board of Bellevue Hospital, and that we are now enabled, from the large accession to our number of patients, to exhume the dormant, lifeless, useless materials in these institutions, and enable them to become demonstrable, living, speaking facts, and of which you are, young gentlemen, to be the recipients. It is not my purpose, gentlemen, to enlarge on this point; I must leave it to other and more proficient heads to touch. The duty that has devolved upon myself is to offer a few remarks, by way of suggestion and advice, to those of you who are about commencing your curriculum of medical studies in this institute.

It is a conceded fact, that the great end and aim of medical study, and of medical practice, is to diminish mortality and assuage pain and suffering; and the great duty you now have to perform is to store your minds with as much useful professional knowledge as possible, to enable you to obtain these most important ends. To gain correct views of the conditions and causes which tend to produce disease, suffering, and death, and the various means by which the amount of that suffering and mortality may be diminished, clearly demands the most earnest attention and the most energetic application of the human mind; and, hence, it becomes a great work—a work in which it may be your privilege, provided you are faithful to your duty and yourselves, to take an active and successful part.

In the few remarks I have to make I wish to address you encouragingly, and to assure you that the profession you have chosen is one well worthy of all the devotion and all the love you can possibly bring to bear upon it; but if you take little trouble, and find little interest in the prosecution of the studies and pursuits connected with it, the chances are that you will fail to experience that cheering influence which the proper cultivation and love of it can alone secure.

The medical man's life may, with truth, be said to be, at best, but a struggle, and one in which neither ease or wealth do frequently or largely enter. The profession, nevertheless, has its own peculiar recommendations; and it behooves me to tell those who are commencing their medical studies that their success and happiness will depend entirely on the way in which their talents, industry, and inclinations are directed; that if they cannot make up their minds to undergo no small degree of self-denial and patience—to experience a great deal of mental labor, anxiety, and fatigue—to rough it physically as well as mentally, and, above all, to undertake this cheerfully, happen what may—they had better think of betaking themselves to some other avocation, in the study and exercise of which their indolence may lie undisturbed. But if they can make up their minds differently—if they can resolve to commence resolutely and steadily to pursue the inviting work of duty which they now have a prospect of—if they can bring courage, and perseverance, and the whole heart to the study of the truly noble profession they have been led to select, and, while yet young, they become lovers and doers of their work, able and willing to encounter and master its difficulties and to appreciate the value and importance of its interesting details—I need scarcely say they will ultimately reap a rich reward. And I will take this opportunity of assuring you that there is, happily, a species of wealth belonging to our calling that cannot be measured or compared with dollars and cents. Money cannot purchase it; influence cannot affect it; and the world's lucre and the world's interest fail either to make or unmake that noblest, because most truly independent, species of wealth, the possession of which it ought to be the aim of all of you. I allude to that wealth which true professional knowledge can alone bring—the esteem, respect, and confidence of your fellow-man.

Allow me here to refer to the more special object of our meeting. It is, gentlemen, to bid you welcome. I need not enumerate the various branches taught, nor tell you who the various teachers are,

but I will say that, in quality as well as in quantity, there need be no dread of deficiency, and that, while variety is lightsome, union may prove to be strength. Our united and individual efforts are intended for your benefit and welfare, and it is to be hoped that the spirit of emulation which attends an honorable rivalry on the part of the teacher, will prove equally so on the part of the student, and that there will exist very generally amongst us, this winter, this influence, and leave us all, at the close of it, not only wiser and better, but, intellectually, stronger men.

In the name of my colleagues, I invite you especially to remember that the benefits to be looked for from your attendance on our classes is by no means limited to their springing from our lectures; for we desire not only to lecture to you, but to teach you, with all the extensive clinical advantages we possess and within our reach and control.

Permit me, gentlemen, to say that we have gone through the same ordeal which some of you are about to commence, and others to resume; that we, too, like you, in our day have left anxious homes and hearts, to prepare ourselves for the important battle of medical life; and that we have some experience of what kind of battle it is, and a pretty correct estimate of what kind of men are required to fill up our ranks; and that, therefore, we do sympathize with you on the present occasion.

The duty we pledge ourselves to fulfill towards those pupils who appear here for the first time is one of encouragement and kindly consideration; and to all present who are expecting to prepare themselves for the proper discharge of their professional duty, I would, in conclusion, and with every feeling of sincerity and earnestness, say: *Begin well*, and the future course is easy and safe; for a man seldom makes up in after life for the loss sustained by a false start in the beginning. Every year and every day has its own work, and he who is trifling with the past, instead of the present, is playing a losing game with life; the odds are heavily against him. *Now*, gentlemen, should be your motto; for, let me ask you, what is all Time—past, present, or to come—but an everlasting Now. It is experience, action, hope, concentrated in one focus. It is man's only possession; it is his only capital for the exercise of his talent and Industry; it is a great living fact; it is the bond of union between the speculative and active; and it is the highest exponent of wisdom. Start well, therefore, gentlemen, and remember that, after a good start, the next thing to winning is, to keep the pace.

## REMARKS OF HON. SIMEON DRAPER,

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS, AND OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COLLEGE.

*(From the American Medical Times.)*

He said that it was not to be supposed that he would claim the attention of the audience for any length of time. He seldom found himself among doctors, but it was nevertheless his pride to say that he felt himself honored by his association with them on that occasion. He had been for a long time connected with the institutions they had that day examined on the islands, and he had frequently felt it his duty to disclose to the citizens of New York what the Commissioners of these charities had been doing, and in what manner they were discharging the high trust committed to their charge. He knew and appreciated what those gentlemen, who were to-day inaugurating a most valuable institution, were daily doing for society at large, and what they had done gratuitously for the poor and destitute of their city. The Commissioners, appreciating the benevolence of the Faculty, had deemed it their duty to open the institutions which they governed to their inspection, and to submit the medical department of them to their control, taking care that every man, woman, and child, from one end of the State to the other, should reap the benefits that were here at their very thresholds. He had pride in saying that the institution now inaugurated—to be in future, he hoped, an honor to their city—deserved well of the community so long as it retained within its government the men who were now connected with it—men who were devoting time, and energy, and character, and professional knowledge, and experience to the relief of those who most needed such friendly interposition and aid—the poor and needy. The institution was peculiarly for the benefit of the young medical students of the city and State, and students from distant States who might seek instruction with them; and he hoped that the students would always conduct themselves in the most unimpeachable manner, and that under no circumstances would they do anything calculated to reflect discredit on the institution. Let it ever be their study to show the world that they were never unmindful of the true interests of every individual, be he ever so unprotected, ever so poor, and friendless; but that their hearts were as benevolent and humane as their profession was useful and ennobling.

## REMARKS OF ARCHBISHOP HUGHES.

It was not the first time that he had heard the sound of his own voice, and he was not afraid of that sound. But he confessed that he felt more than usual, on an occasion like the present, when he spoke in the presence of scientific gentlemen, of distinguished patrons of everything that was charitable. And he would say that if his remarks should be of the least interest to them, it will be because he had not the slightest knowledge of the science connected with medicine. He was very fortunate, while a student at college, in avoiding the perusal or study of books on medical science. He never knew one of his fellow-students, who devoted much time to the study of medical books, who did not fancy that he was subject to all diseases on the calendar. But, notwithstanding, he had acquired some little knowledge of the history of the profession. He would not go back to the times of the old fathers, of Hippocrates and others, but he would remark, on the testimony of the earliest times, that Cæsar, of Rome, patronized the physicians and gave them the right of citizenship in Rome. Afterwards the Arabs took up the question of medical science, and made great progress in it in their own way. From them it was transferred, in a feeble condition indeed, to Europe. At a very early period the clergy also began to play at doctors. Then it was not considered inconsistent with their sacred profession to do so. In the middle ages, when Christians were filled with prejudice against those who professed the Jewish religion, numbers of that persuasion devoted themselves, with quiet industry and success, to the study and practice of medicine. And while in some cities they were confined to certain quarters called the Jews' Quarters, they, on the other hand, found admittance into the palaces of kings as doctors of medicine. Again, as civilization began to be re-established and improved in modern times, the study and practice of medicine became more and more necessary and general. He had never lost an occasion, while in Europe, of visiting the public institutions, particularly those devoted to medical pursuits, and he had always found that these institutions afforded every opportunity and advantage to young men in the prosecution of their studies. He had visited the medical institutions of Paris, of Lyons, Naples, Vienna, and Rome; and in all these every facility was given to students to perfect themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The question was, if we were to

have doctors, why not have the best doctors? He thought that the establishment which they had just opened, under such very flattering auspices, in every sense would become a means of improving and elevating more and more the science of medicine. He could easily imagine, in the condition of society during the past centuries, that medical science could not—for it had not the opportunity—realize its aspirations. But it seemed to him that, under the enlightened teaching and instruction which was to be imparted in the new College, the young physicians of the present day will grow up and emulate the fame and reputation of their predecessors who are most distinguished and eminent. There were two classes of men in the world—the killers and the curers. The Duke of Wellington was a great killer, yet while he killed with the sword in one hand he had himself always surrounded with a most eminent staff of curers—the best surgeons that England could afford—to restore, in some sense, the mischief he was employed in inflicting. They had been looking and reading of wars in Europe, but now war had visited them at their own homes, and it was for the physician to alleviate by his skill, as much as possible, the injuries inflicted upon our soldiers. If this was a post-prandial speech, he might be tempted to give, as a toast, the great killer and eminent curer of their own country and times. In that case he would give—“General Scott and Dr. Mott.”

#### REMARKS BY REV. E. H. CHAPIN.

It is a singular fact, and one which the satirist is not slow to notice, that the three professions—Law, Medicine, and Divinity—rest upon the mysterious ground of human evil; they exist because of the passions, the diseases, and the sins of men. To any sarcasm that may be excited by this fact, however, it is sufficient to reply, that evil is the inevitable back-ground by which good in this world is made manifest, and the noblest achievements which man is permitted to perform are wrought out in conflict with sin and suffering. Of the positive and excellent offices of Law, I need say nothing; its own eloquent advocate is here present, and through his lips it can amply speak for itself. But let me remind you what a community of beneficial work there is in the labors of the good clergyman and the good physician. Meeting at the bedside in ministrations to the suffering body and suffering soul, there is a natural interchange of offices between them. The clergyman may really do much for the

body, reverently confessing those physical laws which, written by the Divine Hand in letters of blood and on columns of bone, are as sacred as though graven on stony tables. And how often may the physician, without undue intrusion, touch those mystic springs of thought, of penitence, of gratitude, which, among the conditions of the failing body, proclaim the existence of the undying soul. It is a suggestive truth, that He who was and is the Type of perfect manhood combined in himself both these functions, and was at once the Great Teacher and the Great Physician. Let us, then, recognize the greatness and the sacredness of this latter vocation. Mr. Chapin here passed an earnest eulogy upon the medical profession. He narrated the anecdote of Dr. Glynn, who was called on, in stormy weather and at night, by a poor widow, to visit her son, where he lay dying of ague, in a wretched cottage among the fens of Cambridge. The doctor took with him bark and wine, and prescribed for the poor lad. A few days afterwards the widow called upon him again, not to announce her son's decease, but to present him with a pet magpie—the only thing her son possessed to send him in token of his gratitude. That poor, homely bird uttered in the doctor's ear, undoubtedly, sweeter notes than songster ever sung, and was, every day a pleasure to him prouder than laurel crowns and garlands laid at his feet by princess or by king.

Mr. Chapin then proceeded to speak, in conclusion, as follows:

In the suggestive truth to which I have alluded—that the Great Founder of Christianity was at once Teacher and Physician—surely there is an intimation of the close connection between science and religion—between the most profound physical investigations and the largest human benefits. It is to me a most beautiful fact, that the explorer of nature, even from its remotest labyrinths and among its dryest abstractions, gathers some element of healing and of help—from plant and mineral, from the wide expanse of ocean and of air, he extracts some specific for the fevered frame, some balm for the aching head. And how truly is this connection between science and charity, truth and love, represented in this Medical College of Bellevue Hospital. Here, exemplifications of human disease and suffering, in all their phases, furnish the student with lessons of practice and occasions of help. From the very arsenal of pain and sickness he wrests the weapons with which to conquer pain and sickness. Thus, I repeat, does this institution illustrate the intimate connection between the investigation of physical nature, so characteristic of our



age, and the noblest benefits of philanthropy and religion. Bellevue Hospital stands here on the river's bank, like a double-star, shedding abroad the light of science and of charity. And to this let me add that it stands here as a memorial of the liberality and public spirit of New York. It vindicates our city from the charge of selfishness and absorbing materialism. It is true that New York is the center of the great material interests of our country. It is true that here is the main artery of our trade and commerce. Here sits this great metropolis, at the gates of the sea, looking through her lattice of masts at the white sails that go and come from every quarter of the globe. But who says, now, that New York cares for nothing but material interests? Has not the spirit of noble sacrifice stirred in her veins? In this hour of the nation's travail, her heart has leaped with the irrepressible life of patriotism, which has sprung, as it were, from the very stones of the streets, and blossomed in ten thousand flags. In her wealth and her power she has risen to cover the insulted breast of the Union with a shield of gold, and has girt it around with a bulwark of living sinews and bristling steel. But the noblest trophies of her spirit and her enterprise are institutions like this, that claim and receive our warmest interest even amidst the distractions of war, and that shall still shine with the blended light of science and humanity when war shall have passed away.

#### REMARKS OF JAMES T. BRADY, ESQ.

Mr. Brady alluded briefly, in eloquent terms, to the want of gratitude to the medical profession for their invaluable services, and paid a special tribute to the humane and untiring exertions of those who had charge of the Bellevue Hospital, for bringing it to its present state of usefulness. The wants of the poor were ministered to as well as the best interests of the rising generation of doctors. In conclusion, he expressed it as his conviction that an institution founded upon such principles must, of necessity, be perpetual.

The exercises were then closed with prayer by the REV. CHANCELLOR FERRIS.



Bellebue Hospital Medical College,  
NEW YORK.

SESSION FOR 1861-'62.

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